ST. BERNARD PARISH SCHOOLS Spring Newsletter and Update April 2006

With the coming of spring, we appreciate all of the joys that the season brings, and we would like to once again remember and thank you for your help in our ongoing recovery process. We are indeed fortunate to have your support and encouragement as we work toward rebuilding our school district and our community. Our news is good! We are grateful for our accomplishments.

Although time has flown, our progress has been slow but steady. Our growing enrollment, however, indicates that our students want to return to us. November 14, our first day of school, we opened with about three hundred thirty-five students; by December 21, we had six hundred forty; on January 18, we had one thousand six hundred. As of today, we are approaching twenty-four hundred students! Keep in mind that we currently share one building!! It is crowded, but we are using creative measures for "traffic control" in the hallways and at lunch!!!

We continue to be thankful for the growth in enrollment. We interpret it as a positive sign that our community will return to rebuild.

By August we will have a second school which will house our elementary students. Our current single school will once again become a high school. We will place our middle schoolers at whichever site can take them based on enrollment figures. We hope to have a middle school site available within the next year.

Looking through our list of donors, we are deeply touched by the number of people who have offered their help. Help has come to us in so many ways. The sources for our donations have been varied. The geographic locations range from quite local to throughout the United States, and to international friends from Canada, Singapore, England, Belgium, Poland, Kazakhstan, and the Netherlands. The types of donations, too, are varied. We have been fortunate to have received everything from monetary donations to volunteer hours. The constant and sincere good wishes from our friends are a source of inspiration to us all.

Along the way we have met so many wonderful people who truly have made a difference in our recovery and our personal and professional lives. The continuing well wishes and notes of encouragement and support serve as a source of strength for us all.

We wish each of you a wonderful, joyful spring! Please keep in touch with us. We want to share our good news with you as we continue to recover.

Visit our website at <u>www.stbernard.k12.la.us</u>
Contact our donation coordinator at <u>cmundt@stbernard.k12.la.us</u>